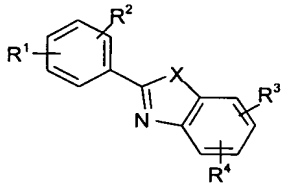
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof:

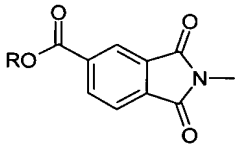


(I)

wherein

X is O or S;

R^1 is a phthalimide carboxylic acid group of formula (II):



(II)

R is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl or C_1-C_3 alkylaryl;

R^2 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^5, a 5-membered heteroaryl ring, or NR^5R^5 ~~wherein the R^5 substituents together with the nitrogen to which they are attached may form a 5- or 6-membered ring which may contain an additional heteroatom selected from O, S, and NR^{10}~~;

R^3 and R^4 are independently hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^{10}, COR^6, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, CN, $S(O)_pR^9$, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^6, CN, CHO, $OCHF_2$, NR^7R^8, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, $S(O)_pR^9$ and methylenedioxo, or a 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl ring which is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^3 and R^4 together ~~may~~ form a fused phenyl ring or a -O-$(CH_2)_x$-O- group, wherein x is 1 or 2;

R^5 is independently hydrogen, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, NR^7R^8, phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl ring, wherein phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo and wherein the heteroaryl ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^5 and R^5, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 5- or 6-membered ring which optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S, and NR^{10};

R^6 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^5, NR^7R^8 or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1.C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^{10}, CN, CHO, $OCHF_2$, NR^7R^8, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, $S(O)_pR^9$ and methylenedioxo;

R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, phenyl, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl or a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, wherein in each case, the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo and the heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached ~~may~~ form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring which is optionally substituted by $CONR^{10}R^{10}$ and ~~may~~ optionally ~~contain~~ contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^{11};

R^9 is C_1-C_6 alkyl or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo;

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy;

R^{11} is hydrogen, phenyl or C_1-C_3 alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl, wherein in each case the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo; and

p is 0, 1 or 2;

provided that the compound is not 2-[4-(5-carboxy-1,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-2H-isoindol-2-yl)phenyl]-6-benzothiazolecarboxylic acid.

2. (original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein X is O.

3. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~claim 1 or 2~~ claim 1 wherein R^1 is meta to the benzoxazole or benzothiazole group.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^2 is hydrogen, OR^5 or NR^5R^5.

5. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^3 is hydrogen or halogen.

6. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^4 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^{10}, COR^6, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^6, CN, CHO, $OCHF_2$ and NR^7R^8, or a 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl ring which is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl; or R^3 and R^4 together ~~may~~ form a fused phenyl ring.

7. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 6 wherein R^4 is COR^6, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^6, CN, CHO, $OCHF_2$ and NR^7R^8, or a 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl ring which is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl.

8. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein each R^5 is, independently, hydrogen, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, C_1-C_3 alkoxy or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl ring, wherein the heteroaryl ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl.

9. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^6 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^5 or NR^7R^8.

10. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 9 wherein R^6 is OR^5 or NR^7R^8.

11. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl or a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, wherein the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo and the heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl; or ~~still preferably~~ R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached ~~may~~ form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring which is optionally substituted by $CONH_2$ and ~~may~~ optionally ~~contain~~ contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^{11}.

12. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^9 is C_1-C_6 alkyl.

13. (currently amended) A compound ~~of formula (I) as described in any one of Examples 1 to 118~~ which is

2-[3-(Benzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(Naphth[2,3-d]oxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(6-Methylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Chlorobenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-(naphth[2,3-d]oxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-(6-methylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-(5-chlorobenzoxazolyl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-(benzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Chloro-(5-chlorobenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Chloro-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methyl-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methyl-5-(benzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,3-dioxo-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(benzofuran-2-yl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-acetyl)phenylbenzoxazol-2yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3,4-dimethoxy)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(2-methoxy)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3,4-dichloro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-chloro-4-fluoro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-[4-(1-hydroxyethyl)]phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-methyl)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-[(5-methyl)thiophen-2-yl]benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-methoxy)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-cyano)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-methyl)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-methoxy)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-fluoro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-chloro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-fluoro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(2,4-difluoro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3,5-difluoro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-trifluoromethoxy)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-trifluoromethoxy)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(2,4-dichloro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Propargyloxy-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Ethoxy-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-(2-Methoxyethylamino)-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Ethoxy-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-(2-Methoxyethoxy)-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Butoxy-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Isopropoxy-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Allyloxy-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Hydroxy-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propoxy-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-(3-Furanylmethoxy)-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-(2-Methoxyethoxy)-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[5-(5-Phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)-2-(3-tetrahydrofuranylmethoxy)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[5-(5-Phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)-2-(3-thiophenylmethoxy)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-(4-Morpholinyl)-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid, acetic acid salt;

2-[4-Ethylamino-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-(2-Methoxyethylamino)-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Morpholinyl-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Butylamino-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Hexylamino-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Pentylamino-3-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-(3-Benzoxazol-2-yl-4-propylaminophenyl)-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-(3-Naphtho[2,3-d]oxazol-2-yl-4-propylaminophenyl)-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Chlorobenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(6-Methylbenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(6-Fluorobenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Bromobenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Methoxybenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5,7-Dichlorobenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Trifluoromethylbenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Bromo-7-fluorobenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Fluorobenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(6,7-Difluorobenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Methylbenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(4-Methylbenzoxazol-2-yl)-4-propylaminophenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-(3-[6-(2-Tetrahydrofuranylmethylaminocarbonyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl)-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-[6-(4-Piperonylpiperazine-1-carbonyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-[6-(4-Piperazinoacetophenone-1-carbonyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-[6-(3-Trifluoromethylphenyl)piperazine-1-carbonyl]benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl)-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-[6-(3-Carbamoylpiperidine-1-carbonyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-[6-(4-Methoxybenzylaminocarbonyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-[6-(3,4-Dimethoxybenzylaminocarbonyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Carboxy-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydroisoindol-2-yl)phenyl]benzoxazole-6-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Carboxy-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydroisoindol-2-yl)phenyl]benzoxazole-6-carboxylic acid methyl ester;

2-[3-(5-Carboxy-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydroisoindol-2-yl)phenyl]benzoxazole-7-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Benzyloxycarbonyl-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-isoindol-2-yl)phenyl]benzoxazole-6-carboxylic acid;

2-[3-(5-Methyloxycarbonyl-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydroisoindol-2-yl)phenyl]benzoxazole-6-carboxylic acid;

2-[5-(5-Bromobenzoxazol-2-yl)-2-methoxyphenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[5-(5-Phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)-2-(3-thienyl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Fluoro-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Chloro-5-(5-phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(2-benzothiophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-fluoro-3-formylphenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(3,4-difluorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-ethylsulfonylphenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-N,N-dimethylaminophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[2-Methoxy-5-[5-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-[5-(2-benzothiophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-[5-(2-benzofuranyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-[5-(3,5-difluorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-[5-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-[5-(3-methoxy)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Methoxy-5-[5-(4-methylphenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-3-[5-(2-benzofuranyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(2-benzothiophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(3-methyl-4-chlorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(3-chloro-4-fluoro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(3,5-difluoro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(4-fluorophenyl)benzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(4-trifluoromethoxy)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

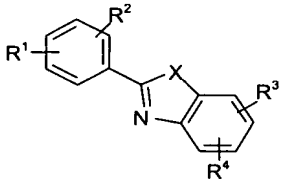
2-[4-Propylamino-5-[5-(3-chloro)phenylbenzoxazol-2-yl]phenyl]-1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-5-carboxylic acid;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.

14. (canceled)

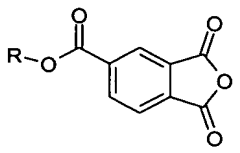
15. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound ~~as defined in any one of claims 1 to 13~~ according to claim 1 which comprises:

a) ~~treating~~ heating a compound of formula (III):



(III)

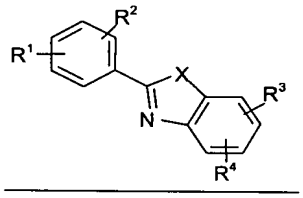
wherein R^1 is NH_2 or a protected derivative thereof ~~and X, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are as defined in claim 1~~, with a compound of formula (IV):



(IV)

~~wherein R is as defined in claim 1, by i) heating~~ in a suitable acidic medium, or ~~ii)~~ b) heating a compound of formula (III) with a compound of formula (IV) with an organic base in a suitable solvent, followed by heating in a suitable acidic medium.

16. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 13, but without the proviso,~~ of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof:

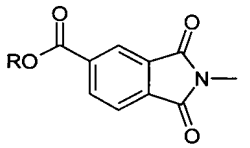


(I)

wherein

X is O or S;

R^1 is a phthalimide carboxylic acid group of formula (II):



(II)

R is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl or C_1-C_3 alkylaryl;

R^2 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^5, a 5-membered heteroaryl ring, or NR^5R^5;

R^3 and R^4 are independently hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^{10}, COR^6, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, CN, $S(O)_pR^9$, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^6, CN, CHO,

$OCHF_2$, NR^7R^8, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, $S(O)_pR^9$ and methylenedioxo, or a 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl ring which is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^3 and R^4 together form a fused phenyl ring or a -O-$(CH_2)_x$-O- group, wherein x is 1 or 2;

R^5 is independently hydrogen, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, NR^7R^8, phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl ring, wherein phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo and wherein the heteroaryl ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^5 and R^5, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 5- or 6-membered ring which optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S, and NR^{10};

R^6 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^5, NR^7R^8 or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^{10}, CN, CHO, $OCHF_2$, NR^7R^8, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, $S(O)_pR^9$ and methylenedioxo;

R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, phenyl, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl or a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, wherein in each case, the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo and the heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring which is optionally substituted by $CONR^{10}R^{10}$ and optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^{11};

R^9 is C_1-C_6 alkyl or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo;

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy;

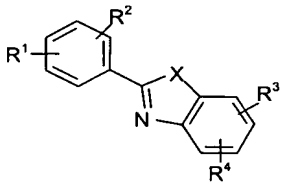
R^{11} is hydrogen, phenyl or C_1-C_3 alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl, wherein in each case the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo; and

p is 0, 1 or 2,

~~together with~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient and/or diluent.

17-22. (canceled)

23. (new) A method for inhibiting heparanase activity in a patient suffering from a disease or disorder in which heparanase activity plays a role, comprising administering to the patient a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof:

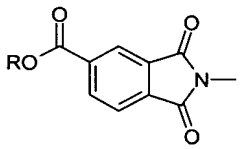


(I)

wherein

X is O or S;

R^1 is a phthalimide carboxylic acid group of formula (II):



(II)

R is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl or C_1-C_3 alkylaryl;

R^2 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^5, a 5-membered heteroaryl ring, or NR^5R^5;

R^3 and R^4 are independently hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^{10}, COR^6, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, CN, $S(O)_pR^9$, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1.C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^6, CN, CHO, $OCHF_2$, NR^7R^8, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, $S(O)_pR^9$ and methylenedioxo, or a 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl ring which is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^3 and R^4 together form a fused phenyl ring or a -O-$(CH_2)_x$-O- group, wherein x is 1 or 2;

R^5 is independently hydrogen, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, NR^7R^8, phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl ring, wherein phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo and wherein the heteroaryl ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^5 and R^5, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 5- or 6-membered ring which optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S, and NR^{10};

R^6 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^5, NR^7R^8 or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^{10}, CN, CHO, $OCHF_2$, NR^7R^8, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, $S(O)_pR^9$ and methylenedioxo;

R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, phenyl, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl or a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, wherein in each case, the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo and the heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring which is optionally substituted by $CONR^{10}R^{10}$ and optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^{11};

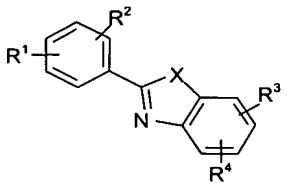
R^9 is C_1-C_6 alkyl or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo;

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy;

R^{11} is hydrogen, phenyl or C_1-C_3 alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl, wherein in each case the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo; and

p is 0, 1 or 2.

24. (new) A method for the treatment of cancer, angiogenesis, angiogenesis related disorders, inflammatory diseases, autoimmune disorders, cardiovascular diseases, or renal disorders comprising administering to a patient suffering from such a disease or disorder a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof:

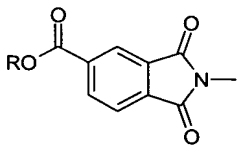


(I)

wherein

X is O or S;

R^1 is a phthalimide carboxylic acid group of formula (II):



(II)

R is hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, aryl or C_1-C_3 alkylaryl;

R^2 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^5, a 5-membered heteroaryl ring, or NR^5R^5;

R^3 and R^4 are independently hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^{10}, COR^6, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, CN, $S(O)_pR^9$, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1.C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^6, CN, CHO, $OCHF_2$, NR^7R^8, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, $S(O)_pR^9$ and methylenedioxo, or a 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl ring which is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^3 and R^4 together form a fused phenyl ring or a $-O-(CH_2)_x-O-$ group, wherein x is 1 or 2;

R^5 is independently hydrogen, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, NR^7R^8, phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl ring, wherein phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen,

CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo and wherein the heteroaryl ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^5 and R^5, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 5- or 6-membered ring which optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S, and NR^{10};

R^6 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, OR^5, NR^7R^8 or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^5, COR^{10}, CN, CHO, $OCHF_2$, NR^7R^8, $NHCOR^7$, $NHSO_2R^9$, $S(O)_pR^9$ and methylenedioxo;

R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, phenyl, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl or a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic ring, wherein in each case, the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo and the heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted by C_1-C_6 alkyl;

or R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring which is optionally substituted by $CONR^{10}R^{10}$ and optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^{11};

R^9 is C_1-C_6 alkyl or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo;

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, or C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_1-C_3 alkoxy;

R^{11} is hydrogen, phenyl or C_1-C_3 alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl, wherein in each case the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF_3, OCF_3, CHO, OR^{10}, COR^{10}, R^{10}, CN and methylenedioxo; and

p is 0, 1 or 2.

25. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein the cancer is melanoma, mesothelioma, lymphoma, leukaemia, fibrosarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, mastocytoma, colorectal cancer, prostate cancer, small cell lung cancer, non-small cell lung cancer, breast cancer, pancreatic cancer, kidney cancer, liver cancer, stomach cancer, bladder cancer, skin cancer, uterine cancer, cervical cancer, or ovarian cancer.

26. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein the angiogenesis and angiogenesis related disorders are angiogenesis associated with the growth of solid tumors or retinopathy.

27. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein the inflammatory diseases are autoimmune disorders selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease and multiple sclerosis.

28. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein the cardiovascular diseases are thromoembolic disease, arterial thrombosis or restenosis.

29. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein the renal disorders are renal disease associated with diabetes or nocturia.